

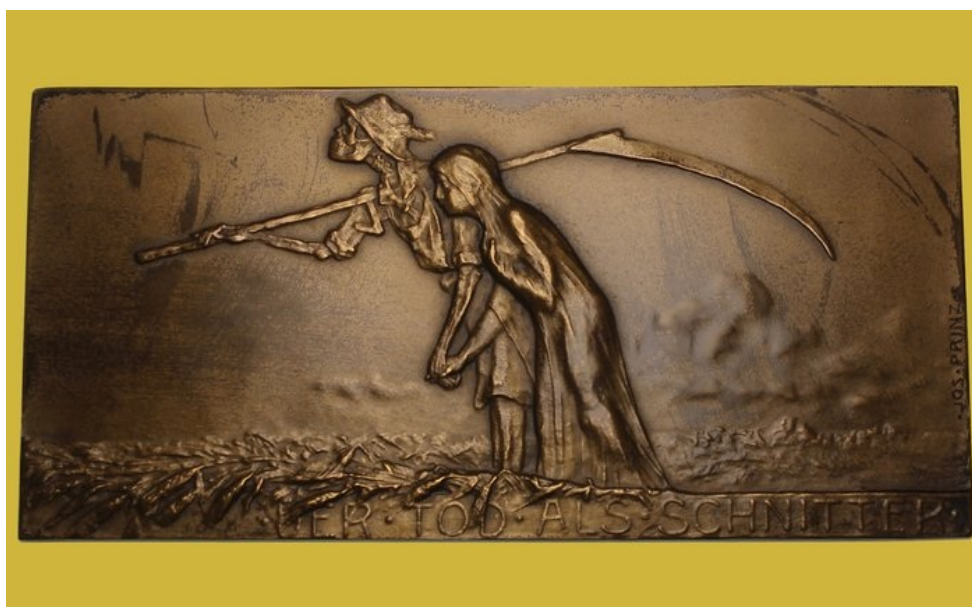
Halloween in June II

Numismagram Newsletter #23 (VI/2019)



A much briefer newsletter than normal, this period of June finds us knee deep in auction cataloging season as well as unpacking from our recent return move to our plumbing-ravaged apartment. Fortunately, the material in this mini upload needs little introducing, as it is an ever-popular theme that has always generated much enthusiasm in the past.

Skulls and skeletons are back, and in addition to types which we have had in the past, such as a St. Lambert's *méreau* and a Blumenbach 'three skulls' medal, there are new types as well, like an Austrian plaque that served as a reminder of the Danubian flooding...



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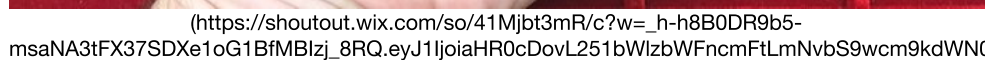
Also found in this mini is a run of Walther Eberbach's 'Dance of Death' series, focusing upon satirical aspects of World War I from a German perspective...



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Similar to the satirical medallic issues of Karl Goetz, Walther Eberbach was inspired by the events of World War I to create a series of rather morbid medals to propagandize the German war effort. The theme upon which he decided to focus was the *Totentanz*, or "Dance of Death." This series of issues, a divergence from the ephemeral topic of *vanitas*, portrayed Death as a skeleton, quite gleefully taking joy in the demise of his enemies—the allied powers—rather than a subtle reflection upon life and death. This frank morbidity is expressed by Eberbach himself in a letter to Julius Menadier, in which he writes "*...I want whoever holds the pieces in their hands years later to be overcome by the shudder grimness.*" It's safe to say that, in this desire, Eberbach was astoundingly successful.

Lastly, this mini is completed by a few other interesting and bizarre pieces, some of which are just too weird to handle...



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